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**FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT**

**LS 7766**

**BILL NUMBER:** HB 1577

**NOTE PREPARED:** Jan 12, 2007

**BILL AMENDED:**

**SUBJECT:** Publication of Notices.

**FIRST AUTHOR:** Rep. Hinkle

**FIRST SPONSOR:**

**BILL STATUS:** As Introduced

**FUNDS AFFECTED:** X **GENERAL**  
**DEDICATED**  
**FEDERAL**

**IMPACT:** State & Local

**Summary of Legislation:** *Emergency Patient Names:* The bill provides that the name of an emergency patient contained in a pre-hospital ambulance rescue or report record is public information and must be made available for inspection and copying.

*Website Posting:* After June 30, 2007, the bill provides that a notice published in a newspaper must also be posted on the newspaper's Internet web site if the newspaper maintains a web site that the general public may access without entering a password or paying a fee.

*Publication Dates:* It provides that notice of an event that must be provided before the event must be published once at least ten days before the event. It also requires notice of an event that must be provided after the event must be published once within 30 days after the event.

*Report of Salaries and Vendor Payments:* The bill requires the annual report of a city or town and the annual abstract of receipts and expenditures of a county to include the total payment made to each vendor in excess of \$2,500, not to exceed 200 vendors. The bill also requires cities, towns, and counties to publish salaries of officers, deputies, and employees only if the salary exceeds a certain amount. It requires a school corporation to publish the regular salaries and extracurricular salaries or stipends for school activities of individual teachers.

*Conformance:* It makes conforming amendments.

**Effective Date:** July 1, 2007.

**Explanation of State Expenditures:** *Website Posting:* The bill requires that a notice published in a newspaper also be published on the newspaper's website under certain circumstance. The cost of publishing in a newspaper is set in statute and it is based on the length of notice published. Under the bill, additional fees for website publishing are not discussed and as a result, this provision has no fiscal impact.

**Explanation of State Revenues:** *Publication Dates:* To the extent that the bill eliminates various different publication dates with two standards for publications in advance of the event or publications after the event, revenues for the Class C infraction for violation of the article could be reduced.

The maximum judgment for a Class C infraction is \$500, which is deposited in the state General Fund. A court fee of \$70 is assessed, 70% of which would be deposited in the state General Fund if the case is filed in a court of record or 55% if the case is filed in a city or town court. In addition, some or all of the judicial salaries fee (\$15), the public defense administration fee (\$3), the court administration fee (\$2), and the judicial insurance adjustment fee (\$1) are deposited into the state General Fund.

**Explanation of Local Expenditures:** *Report of Salaries and Vendor Payments:* Local units including cities and towns and school corporations could have increased publishing costs if they are required to publish salary information for certain employees and vendor payments over \$2,500.

*Website Posting:* No fiscal impact is anticipated; see *Explanation of State Expenditures* above.

**Explanation of Local Revenues:** *Publication Dates:* If additional court actions are filed and a judgment is entered, local governments would receive revenue from the following sources. The county general fund would receive 27% of the \$70 court fee that is assessed in a court of record. Cities and towns maintaining a law enforcement agency that prosecutes at least 50% of its ordinance violations in a court of record may receive 3% of court fees. If the case is filed in a city or town court, 20% of the court fee would be deposited in the county general fund and 25% would be deposited in the city or town general fund. Additional fees may be collected at the discretion of the judge and depending upon the particular type of case.

**State Agencies Affected:** Agencies publishing public notices.

**Local Agencies Affected:** Trial courts, local law enforcement agencies; Fiscal bodies required to report salary and vendor payment information.

**Information Sources:**

**Fiscal Analyst:** Karen Firestone, 317-234-2106.